GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2695
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006
FLOOD CONTROL IN BIHAR
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar experiences devastating flood every year due to rivers originating from Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken so far by the Union Government for evolving a permanent solution to salvage Bihar from flood;

(d) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted any proposal to the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The rivers coming from Nepal, namely, Saptakosi, Gandak, Bagmati and Kamla-Balan, carry heavy silt during monsoon period which gets deposited on the river bed. As a result, the carrying capacity of the rivers gets reduced resulting in overtopping of the banks, causing floods and inundation in North Bihar.

(c) Government of India is having continuous dialogue with Nepal to mitigate flood problems from the rivers coming from Nepal. Government of India has entered into an agreement with Nepal for survey and investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Report for Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage Cum Diversion Scheme for which a Joint Project Office has already been opened in Nepal in August,2004. This project has flood control as one of the major benefits.

An undertaking has also been reached with Government of Nepal to undertake joint feasibility study of Kamla and preliminary study of Bagmati Multipurpose Project.

(d) to (e) On the proposals received from the Government of Bihar, the Union government has been providing Central assistance to Bihar under a centrally sponsored scheme to take up critical anti erosion/flood management works. An amount of Rs.195.63 crore (central share) was approved during the 10th Plan for Ganga Bain States with the share of Bihar state as Rs. 53.96 crores. Central Assistance is also being rendered to Bihar for
(i) Raising, strengthening and extension of embankments of Lalbakeya, Kamla, Bagmati and Khando rivers and
(ii) Improvement of Drainage in Critical Areas of Country including Mokama Tal area`.

Besides, Government of Bihar is being provided financial assistance from Central Government for maintenance of Kosi Embankments also.